

Message

---

**From:** Kondreck, Robert [kondreck.robert@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/27/2023 6:02:26 PM  
**To:** Muhtsun, Ruth [muhtsun.ruth@epa.gov]; Linduska, Rachel [Linduska.Rachel@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** La Salle Chemical Plan Fire - FW: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Hello Ruth,

I'm sure this won't be the last word. It may be time to switch gears and go with a community involvement coordinator. Crafting e-mails, doing research on various topics, talking with folks is chewing up a good deal of time while my other projects fall behind. Hopefully I'm not putting you in the same situation but I think you're likely much better at these situations than I am.

For situational awareness, Paul plans on keeping the Thursday 1000 call going into the foreseeable future. I noticed that you were on the invite list last time, however if I mis-remembered please let me know and I'll forward the invite. Please let me know if you're okay with me giving your e-mail address to this gentleman for future responses.

Thanks,  
Rob

---

**From:** Kondreck, Robert  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2023 11:41 AM  
**To:** Jamie Hicks <Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)>; Linduska, Rachel <Linduska.Rachel@epa.gov>; Brent Bader <b.bader@lasalle-il.gov>; kim.biggs@illinois.gov  
**Cc:** Muhtsun, Ruth <muhtsun.ruth@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

What happened to you and your community is unfortunate, there is no disputing that. It is possible that Carus may have potential violations associated with the warehouse near your house. I was called to this emergency response after it happened and once the response was declared over so was my role. My contact information was provided for information about the response not as a liaison for all environmental issues (chemicals in warehouse), DOT issues (trucks with incorrect placarding), taxes (property not being tax correctly), and other issues mentioned in your e-mails. I am still involved in the project because we are undergoing a transition to the remediation phase which, from my understanding, will be handled by Bureau(s) in Illinois EPA.

As previously mentioned, I am unfamiliar with the regulations for storage of chemicals at a Tier II Facility therefore I referred you to a website that that program uses to investigate potential violations. Even if I came out to look at the warehouse, I don't have the credentialing or the training to issue any violations. The assumption that I am familiar with all EPA, other federal, state, and local regulations is incorrect. That is why I referred you to different programs that can speak with more clarity about those topics. Below is a referral list for your valid concerns.

One way to report an environmental violation is through the below link.  
<https://echo.epa.gov/report-environmental-violations>

To determine if there are other Tier II facilities in your area:  
<https://public.iema.state.il.us/FOIAHazmatSearch/T2Search.aspx>

The Illinois Department of Public Health can speak to air monitoring results and public health issues.  
217-782-5830 or [DPH.Tox@illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.Tox@illinois.gov)

Samples were collected by Illinois EPA  
Brad Frost. I believe you said you had his contact

A guidance for animals was provided by Illinois Department of Agriculture (See attached)

Through correspondences from them they also made the following statement: "An animal owner or a veterinarian can also call the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Hotline directly for assistance with potential toxic ingestions/exposure. There is a fee for this service to private vets and animal owners, but in cases where there are potential symptoms, toxic levels, or treatment is unknown, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Hotline is staffed by veterinary toxicologists who can provide the best assessment and treatment recommendations (if an animal owner calls, the hotline can assess if medical treatment is indicated)."

Damage to property due to the fire

Carus hotline 815.224.662

---

From: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 6:12 PM

To: Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>; Linduska, Rachel <Linduska.Rachel@epa.gov>; Brent Bader <b.bader@lasalle-il.gov>; kim.biggs@illinois.gov

Subject: Fwd: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

Date: Fri, Jan 26, 2023 at 4:31 PM

Subject: Re: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

To: Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>

Rob ,

Thank you, I was under the impression you are on our site?. I called them and reported them to iEPA. They told me I do have concerns that sound really funny. At Least you got me to the right people finally. The city told us USEPA was here on site with IEPA. This could have been handled by you , paul , or the Iepa, you are all on site. Don't sugar coat what they are doing . Something is fishy here. Lasalle county taxes says it is a vacant building. Not a tier 2 storage facility and why would the public not know whe have a tier two facility.

That lowers my property value even more. In the 25 years I've been here , My inlaws were here before me and never heard of it. I trusted you to push my complaint along, show concern for a potential bomb in my backyard?? instead you canceled our meeting ,did not reschedule it and have been blowing me off for days now. I feel you talked to carus and that's why you canceled

. Take your name as contact for this site if you're not here to help us or here at all. I'm sure this isn't your first job you've been on. I'm sure you're a very smart man. So why could you not pass this to the right people for me? I am just shocked that everybody in this email just doesn't do anything but help the company hide chemicals ? I hold you all responsible if this doesn't get covered up by the deep pockets of a corporate company with the help of USEPA and IEPA ,City of Lasalle. And the Lasalle police that are escorting non placarded trucks. You know that is illegal from all your training. How do I know all this and your resources? Let down and if you think I am the only one who feels that way you're wrong. Like you all just close your eyes to a potentially worse situation than we have already. Where are my test results too? I need them. If it comes back elevated then what? You look like the ass instead of me. When they raid that plant and find it to be illegal I will be holding you responsible and everyone included in the email. You're supposed to be our contact for help and advice. FAILED MY COMMUNITY

On Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 3:41 PM Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov> wrote:

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

I work in emergency response and am unfamiliar with the regulations for storage of chemicals at a Tier II Facility. Therefore I referred you to a reporting violation website where they could address your concerns. They will likely want to know what law/regulations are being broken (i.e. potassium permanganate is on-site but not reported on the Tier II form, building with no placarding, etc.). It appears based on the website that they have been reporting chemicals at that location, albeit the address does change. Saying they have chemicals at the warehouse and they are reporting that they have chemicals at the warehouse may not constitute a violation. Again, I'm not sure because I don't work in that program.

Robert

---

**From:** Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2023 12:18 PM  
**To:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

ROB,

Called iepa and they told me you are in charge of this complaint, you are the USEPA. You and paul are ignoring the situation, three days later you finally reply "I am not contacting the right agency"? Then help me. Then IEPA calls me and tells you are in charge? Your telling me its this hard to have someone listen to me about a crime being committed? Pawning me off on everybody else. They have taken 4 truck loads out of there and nobody checking on them. TIER 2 Chemical facility nobody knows about until now. Address change three times , no company name , no emergency information ,no phone number and no placards on the building hidden in the woods. I tell you i have pictures of totes of potassium permanganate. You ignore me and I have a potential bomb in my back yard. Then pawn me off instead of helping? That's what the USEPA does to us. City is allowing them to truck this stuff out of there and then check the building.Am I the only one that sees something wrong with that? Taxes record show this as vacant building 2020 thru 2023. I couldn't go back further or I would give more information. How can you just ignore this as if they are not violating government law. My two contacts Paul and yourself have left me in the wind for days, ignoring my emails. Where are the test to my property so we can be cleared or considered dead because your test of my property are not in. How can you say we are safe with out test results back? They are hauling chemical out of this warehouse I need help. City is allowing it to happen, because they have no control over this illegal chemical facility. all these years they been trucking that stuff through my neighborhood's and right under your nose they gonna continue to do it.

I am let down by your lack of help and information you are to provide us to feel safe. You may take me as joke but I know the law and I know what a cover up is. I was asked today why i would want to bring attention to this after the plant explosion , think or what it would to the community. So that makes it right for big corporation's to lie cheat and steal. If they lied to my city officials then who else they lying to or about? Under your supposed watch!! Do let them con the USEPA of there illegal activity. Illegal tier 2 chemical facility in my back yard far from that plant. Someone is letting them hide the evidence and I blame you and your lack of interest . Please contact me asap

Thank you

On Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 10:46 AM **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** te:

I got that information and know they are a tier 2 chemical facility called apollo warehouse owned by carus chemical. What they are doing is illegal

On Thu, Jan 26, 2023, 9:01 AM Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov> wrote:

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

I looked online for information on how companies report chemicals to the public and how a private citizen can report a possible violation. From my understanding both of these tasks are initially delegated to the State who will respond to your request.

It appears that you can search facilities and find out what chemicals are stored in the below link. There is a link for a FOIA request for years not listed on the website.

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/FOIAHazmatSearch/T2Search.aspx>

One way to report a violation is through the below link.

<https://echo.epa.gov/report-environmental-violations>

Robert

---

**From:** **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 5:45 PM

**To:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>; Linduska, Rachel <Linduska.Rachel@epa.gov>; Brent Bader <b.bader@lasalle-il.gov>; kim.biggs@illinois.gov

**Subject:** Re: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

To whomever cares,

This is how the epa responds to my message? somebody will be held responsible for letting them get away with a crime on your watch. And putting us in potential danger. I need a reply back asap. I request to meet with you again , and if you do not have new news , where are you because this company probably hid shit before you got here the day of the fire.. Snakes in our grass and you are allowing them to get away with this crime. 55gallon drums my son had seen 15 years ago when he was kid playing in the woods and in that building. Also totes of potassium permanganate. A bomb in my backyard hidden in the woods on a dead-end street for at least 23 years out of the 25

years I've been here. The more time goes by the more evidence is going to be lost. **That means uaeps has failed us again.** That's wrong. This is wrong. **My mayor and councilman know Carus lied to them as of yesterday.** What else are they lying about? how can the pull the wool over your eyes too. Do NOT LET CARUS LEAD YOU like they are. Do your job please. Call epa for help?. I have direct contact and can't get shit. Shameful to everyone I included in this email (epa). that are probably talking to Carus on the phone and buying what they tell you. I am disgusted and feel disrespected by many involved in this.

On Tue, Jan 24, 2023, 12:47 PM **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** wrote:

Robert,

I have questioned what carus has in the warehouse behind our homes? They tell the city they can't go in there to see what's going on. I find that very messed up . My building inspector or chief of fire departments Can't see whats goin on??. Carus told the city it parts.Its not, officer zebron saw what they have in there, he entered the building because they called the copsfrom me video taping them. Why is carus still hauling product from that warehouse? Why are they storing chemicals in are backyards and nobody does anything. They are hiding what they have in there. WE need help here . Do not let these guys do what they want. We see it, I will keep going up the chain to see who dropped the ball on this whole situation. Including usepa , it seems to me carus is leading you instead of the other way around. Now I get no response from you . City says epa checking into that warehouse , not fast enough and not supervised apahently. I expect to hear back from somebody on this matter asap. Sneaky shit going on around here. You guys are letting them get away with it and cover it up. Still don't know how the fire started. I need answers sir and your pawning me off like every other agency

On Tue, Jan 24, 2023 at 9:11 AM **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** wrote:

Do you plan on rescheduling?

On Tue, Jan 24, 2023 at 8:56 AM **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** wrote:

So that's why you're not coming here, No new information? Pretty funny at the city meeting last night they told me you were coming too. Now it changed for some reason. Yes they called and said they don't have them YET ? Why is this taking so long for these results? Why would they not be rushed?. I am really frustrated that this plan has changed. Wonder why we don't trust the usepa . So at 7am when you emailed me, who did you talk to Carus or the city to cancel our planned meeting since last friday. That RMS crew has been out in the woods doing something. So you have no update for the city either? I find this really hard to believe. Is the epa guy that was here friday , here today? How can you tell me its ok , without test results? I need to know why from our email last night your plan was to meet me , 7am it changes? You don' see something wrong with that?

On Tue, Jan 24, 2023 at 7:56 AM Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov> wrote:

Unfortunately I do not have any new information to share. I'm not sure who told you I had your test results. I explained below that Illinois EPA collected those results and someone from Brad Frosts office will communicate them to you.

**From:** Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 7:32 AM  
**To:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Robert,

Do you have plans on talking w me at all. I was told you were going to give me my test results today? This is very stressful situation. Please keep me posted on your plan.

On Tue, Jan 24, 2023, 6:51 AM Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov> wrote:

Unfortunately my travel plans have changed and I will not be able to meet with you at 12:00. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 23, 2023, at 4:03 PM, Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) wrote:

Should be around at 12

On Mon, Jan 23, 2023, 10:56 AM Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

I contacted Illinois EPA and have not heard when the results would be available. However, Brad Frosts confirmed someone from his office should be reaching out to you once those results are in. I can't speak for why results are taking so long but typically results are received up to two weeks after submittal.

I'll be in town tomorrow and can stop by your house if you have other concerns likely between 11-12.

Rob

**From:** Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 8:50 AM

**To:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>

**Subject:** Re: [REDACTED]

Robert

I have called Brad more than once for my results. How can they say it's safe when my test are not in? Why is this taking so long? I feel like we are being down played over here. I walked my whole neighborhood. We got hit the hardest, I seen it go over my home, while it poured down on me. Raw material, not only potassium permanganate. Please help me trust this process. The plume headed NW from my home. Look forward to hearing from you.

On Thu, Jan 19, 2023, 6:32 PM [REDACTED] wrote:

Rob,

That sounds good. [REDACTED]

I thank you for your help and contacting me back.

[REDACTED]

On Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 4:36 PM Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov> wrote:

[REDACTED]

I'd like to let you know that my coworker, Paul Ruesch and Illinois EPA, will be in La Salle around lunch-time tomorrow (1/20). I'm out of State and Paul has been working on this response with me since the start. They can meet with you and discuss the Site around lunch time if your available. Paul will give you a call to confirm your around tomorrow.

Rob

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2023 9:30 PM

**To:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>

**Subject:** [REDACTED]

Robert,

This is [REDACTED] gave you my contact information at the city press conference. You sent EPA guys to test the product that was dumped on me and my property. How do I get the results to the tests that they took. I am not comfortable with how this is being down

played as safe. It's ate the paint off my porch , my trucks , ate thorough the rubber dog toys in the yard as well. I can go on. How the epa can say we are ok is mid blowing to me. We are getting the run around from everyone. City sends us to your website for updates which in return goes back to the city website or carus.

Please contact me , as you know I am a very intelligent guy and need answers. Look forward to hearing back asap

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

--

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

--

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

--

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)



Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)